THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 4th March 1948.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Reclamation work among the 'Criminal Tribes.'

* 24 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) what arrangements have been made to carry on the reclamation work among the 'Criminal Tribes' after the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act;

(b) who the authority still is in charge of reclamation work;

(c) whether the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D. and Railways, has submitted a comprehensive scheme to meet the situation that has arisen after the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act;

(d) if the answer to (c) is in the affirmative, what the scheme is and how far it has been implemented; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to transfer the reclamation work from the Police department to any other department engaged in social welfare or to create a separate authority for the purpose?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"(a) The Government have decided that the existing arrangements for reclamation work should continue after the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act.

"(b) The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D. and Railways, subject to the control of the Inspector-General of Police.

"(c) Yes.

"(d) The scheme proposed by the Deputy Inspector-General does not differ materially from the existing scheme. His proposals are still under consideration of the Government.

"(e) The Government have under consideration a proposal under which the settlements will continue under the control of the Police department and the rest of the reclamation work will be transferred to the Labour department."

Maintenance of roads by the Highways department.

* 25 Q.—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the length of the roads taken by the Highways department from the various municipalities for maintenance;

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(b) when they were repaired last; and

(c) whether the Government have recently received representations that vehicles are being damaged and pedestrians are inconvenienced by the non-repairs of the roads?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) to (c) A report in the matter has been called for from the Chief Engineer (Highways) and its receipt is awaited. The Government have received representations about the bad condition of roads within certain municipal limits and the Chief Engineer has been asked to report on them. Necessary action will be taken on receipt of the Chief Engineer's report."

Enforcement of Non-Power Factories and Shop Assistants' Acts.

* 26 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) when the Non-Power Factories and Shop Assistants' legislation passed by this Council will be brought into force and what the reasons are for the delay in their enforcement; and

(b) whether any representations have been made to the Government for the immediate enforcement of the said enactments and what action the Government have taken in the matter?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (a) The Non-Power Factories Bill is still awaiting the assent of the Governor-General. The Shops and Establishments Act has been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 10th February 1948, and the preliminaries such as agency for administration, inspection, etc., are being got ready before it is brought into force.

"(b) Some representations have been received from certain workers' organizations and action as stated above is being taken by the Government."

Representatives from the Province to the Industries Conference held at Delhi.

* 27 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representatives from this Province attended the Industries Conference recently held in Delhi for promoting peace in Industry;

(b) who those representatives are;

(c) whom they represented and what their credentials are; and

(d) whether any representatives of Labour from this Province attended the Conference, by whom they were sent and what their credentials are?